

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADANA 00060 100946Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 HA-05 H-02 CA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SSO-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 /044 W

-----052862 100949Z /10

O 100858Z MAR 78

FM AMCONSUL ADANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1372

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL IZMIR IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ADANA 060

E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: CASC (ANTAKYA THREE), SOCI, TU

SUBJECT: HUNGER STRIKE AT ADANA PRISON

REF: ADANA 059

1. ACCORDING TO REPORTS FEATURED IN MARCH 10 PRESS, A 48-HOUR HUNGER STRIKE STARTED MARCH 9 AT THE ADANA PRISON WHERE SIX AMCITS ARE INCARCERATED. OUT OF APPROXIMATELY ONE- THOUSAND PRISONERS, 804 ARE REPORTEDLY TAKING PART IN THE STRIKE. THE STATED AIM OF THE STRIKE IS DECLARATION OF AN AMNESTY AND/OR RAPID IMPLEMENTATION OF A DRAFT LAW BEFORE PARLIAMENT TO REDUCE SENTENCES. THE PRISONERS REPORTEDLY INTEND TO END THE STRIKE, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS BEING CONDUCTED PEACEFULLY,

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ON MARCH 11 AT 0800.

2. SINCE THE AMERICAN PRISONERS SAID NOTHING ABOUT THE STRIKE DURING OUR MARCH 8 CONSULAR VISIT (REFTEL) THEY APPARENTLY HAD NO IDEA IT WAS GOING TO OCCUR. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY AUTHORITIES THAT THEY ARE NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE STRIKE.

3. COMMENT: THIS HUNGER STRIKE WAS PROBABLY PLANNED TO COINCIDE WITH THE VISIT TO ADANA PROVINCE OF MEHMET CAN,
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MINISTER OF JUSTICE. WHEN HE WAS IN NEARBY OSMANIYE ON MARCH 8, PRISONERS THERE SEIZED SEVEN GUARDS HOSTAGE. THE GUARDS WERE RELEASED WHEN THE MINISTER MET WITH THE PRISONERS AND PROMISED THEM AN INVESTIGATION INTO THEIR COMPLAINTS AND AN IMPROVEMENT IN CONDITIONS IN THE PRISON. THE PRISONERS IN BOTH THE OSMANIYE AND ADANA PRISONS SEEM TO HAVE CONFIDENCE THAT THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO IMPROVE THEIR LOT, AND

HAVE APPARENTLY STAGED THESE DEMONSTRATIONS TO REMIND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THIS COMMITMENT.
VON DEN STEINEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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